$ 3.95

SECRETS OF HOW, WHEN, WHERE OVERSEAS CB'ERS OPERATE!
KNOW WHAT THEY'RE SAYING! ALL IN THE:

CB'ERS WORLD-WIDE 5-LANGUAGE TRANSLATOR & OPERATIONS MANUAL

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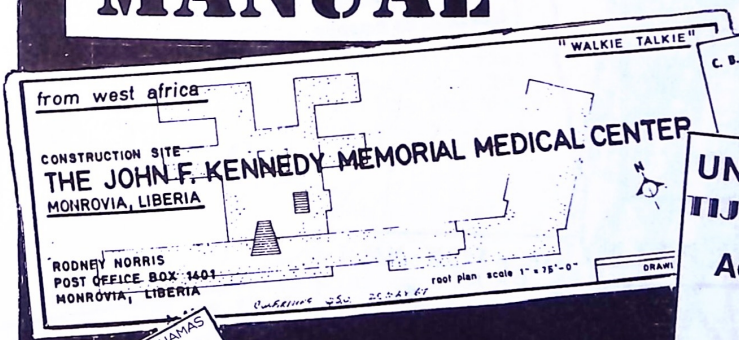

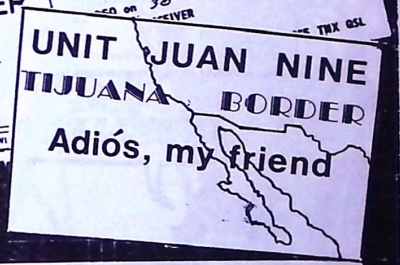

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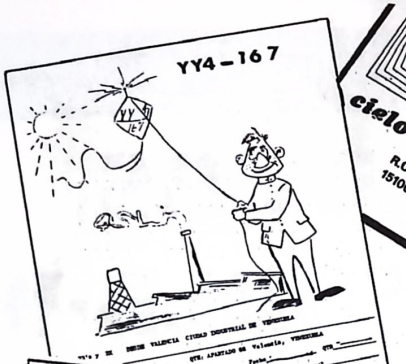
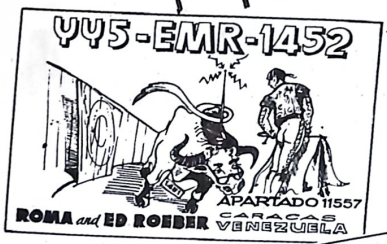
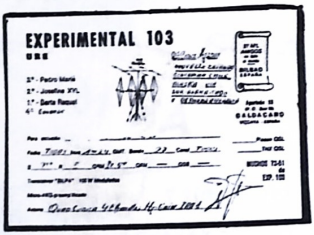






PREFACE

Once upon a time it was decided that alcohol was to be banned from public use because it was thought to be dangerous. So the government passed a law, but the law made no sense and was ignored; eventually revoked. More recently they announced that tobacco was dangerous, but it is still on the shelves of American stores; there seems no chance they will try another ban.

"Remember, it isn't legal to talk to a station 600 miles away, but it's OK as long as you only talk 150 miles and the other station listens the rest of the way."

Author Unknown

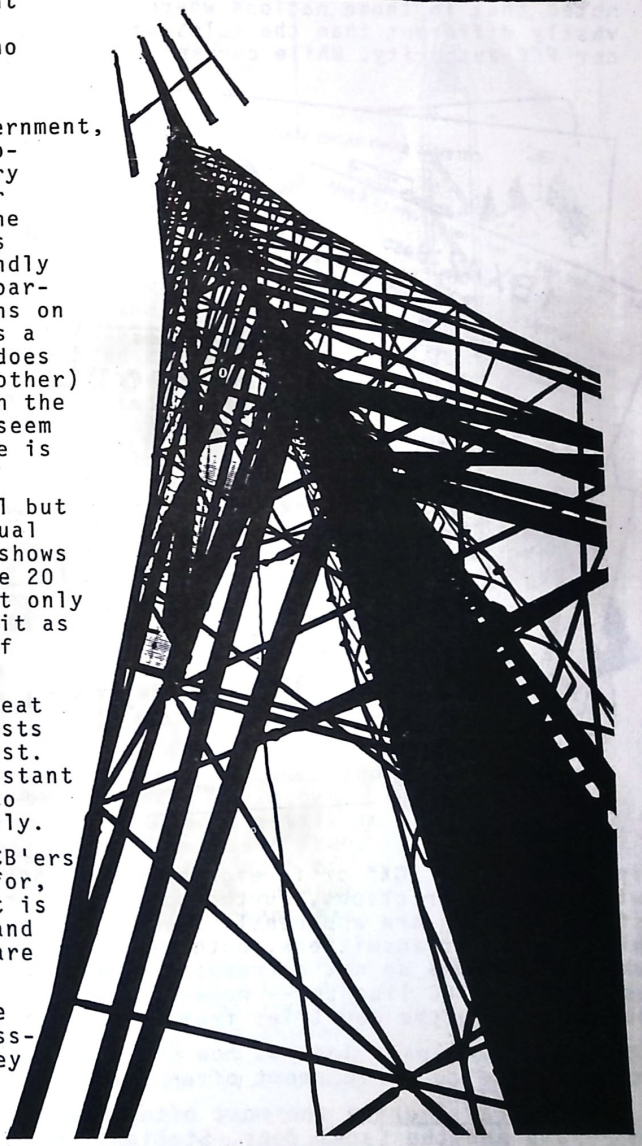
The FCC, an agency of the government, has maintained, however, a prohibition of its own in the very best traditions of the earlier ban on alcohol presented to the public by the government. It's a ban against talking to friendly distant stations which come roaring through like local stations on American CB transceivers. It's a selective ban, since the FCC does permit its Amateur (and many other) licensees to communiciate with the "skip" stations. So it would seem that what's good for the goose is equally good for the gander.

But the so-called "ban" is all but meaningless, since even a casual tuning across the CB channel shows that a large percentage of the 20 million+ CB'ers in America not only see no harm in it, but enjoy it as one of the greatest aspects of the entire hobby.

The current time is one of great potential for "skip" enthusiasts as conditions are at their best. Those who enjoy talking to distant stations, or just listening to them, hear these stations daily.

This book is not a plea for CB'ers to violate FCC regulations, for, indeed, none is necessary. It is a summary of the techniques and practices used by those who are currently working skip.

Hopefully the FCC will remove their ban and give their blessings to working skip, for they seem unable to do much more than watch it happen.



CB ACTIVITY AROUND THE WORLD

CB Radio, under one name or another, exists in the majority of countries of the industrialized portion of the world. In those countries where it does not presently exist, more than likely it is either being considered or else CB radio exists without governmental authorization. In Australia and Italy, for instance, many thousands of illegal stations existed for many years before the respective governments established regulations and licenses. During the "illegal" period, the governments fought a losing battle to shut down the illegal stations. Even today, countries such as Great Britain, Denmark and Japan do not have authorized CB stations, although efforts are being made by local residents to have the service established. It should also be noted that in those nations where CB is authorized, the regulations may be vastly different than the rules under which American CB stations operate under FCC authority. While current FCC regulations do NOT permit the contact-

ing of "skip," "DX" or foreign stations, not all foreign stations are faced with such restrictions, furthermore there are seemingly countless foreign stations which are apparently freely seeking out DX contacts, and using high powered transmitters, both AM and SSB transmissions, and frequencies which sometimes do not correspond with channels authorized for Americans under their FCC licenses-- however some of those frequencies might well be authorized in the countries from which the transmissions come.

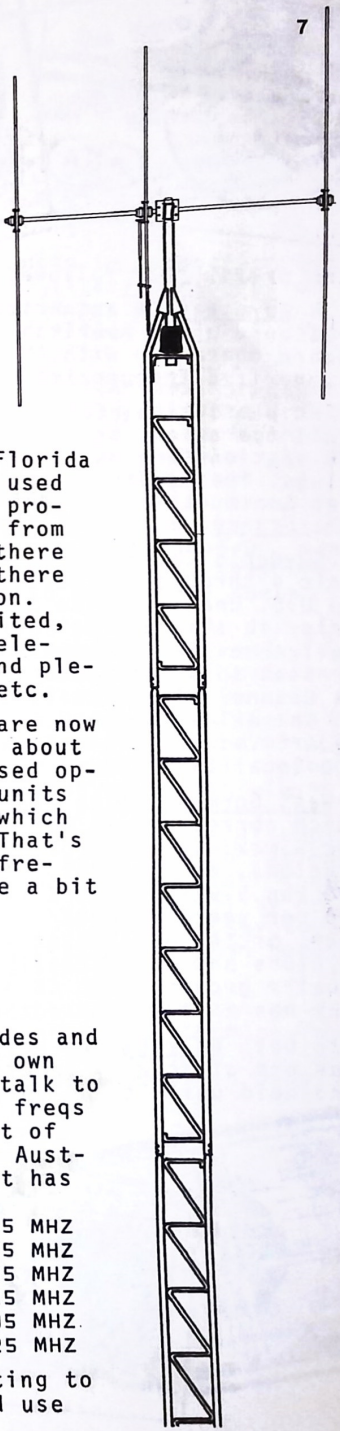
Here is a closer look at how CB is working in several nations around the world, those countries most often heard by North American listeners.

In Central America the most often heard stations are Mexican and those in Panama and the Canal Zone. Stations in Panama and the Canal Zone are op-

erated by American military personnel and by Panamanian citizens, they identify by the prefix "CB" followed by 3 numbers. Channel 11 is the most popular local frequency. American tourists and Mexican citizens alike are heard from the nation south of the Rio Grande.

South America has always been heavily populated by CB stations. Colombian stations use the prefix "HK" followed by several numerals. Stations in Argentina, Venezuela, and the Caribbean islands north of South America are numerous.

Brazilian operators use the prefix "PX" (PAPA XRAY) followed by a single digit representing the radio district, then an additional 4 numbers. The stations use U.S. channels and equivalent CB equipment. Channel 9 is used for emergencies and is monitored in larger cities by public agencies.



In the Bahamas Islands, off the east coast of Florida there are about 2,000 CB'ers, and the most heavily used frequency is Channel 11. Oddly enough, there was a provision for licensing CB'ers which was on the books from 1960 until it was eliminated 6 years later. Today there are no licenses or regulations in effect although there is often talk about the creation of such legislation. CB use therefore is totally unrestricted and unlimited, and is heavily used as a supplement to the local telephone system and for communications with fishing and pleasure vessels. Stations use "handles," callsigns, etc.

In the other direction, New Zealand operators are now "legal." That is to say, the government has issued about 20,000 licenses, however there are as many unlicensed operators as there are ones with licenses. Licensed units are allowed only ½-watt transmitters and antennas which are no longer than 9 feet or higher than 18 feet. That's why there are so many bootleggers. The authorized frequencies, and the numbers used to identify them are a bit unusual and we list them below:

CH 1 26.425 MHZ	CH 5 26.525 MHZ
CH 2 26.450 MHZ	CH 6 26.550 MHZ
CH 3 26.475 MHZ	CH 7 26.575 MHZ
CH 4 26.500 MHZ	

Australian CB'ers are familiar with many 10 Codes and they also sprinkle their communications with their own Aussie brand of CB slang which sounds like double-talk to anybody other than other Australians. A few Aussie freqs don't match up with stateside CB channels, but most of them do; however the numbering system is unique to Australia. Here's how it looks (although the government has future plans to shift CB to UHF):

CH 1 27.015 MHZ	CH 7 27.095 MHZ	CH 13 27.165 MHZ
CH 2 27.025 MHZ	CH 8 27.105 MHZ	CH 14 27.175 MHZ
CH 3 27.035 MHZ	CH 9 27.115 MHZ	CH 15 27.185 MHZ
CH 4 27.055 MHZ	CH 10 27.125 MHZ	CH 16 27.195 MHZ
CH 5 27.065 MHZ	CH 11 27.135 MHZ	CH 17 27.205 MHZ
CH 6 27.085 MHZ	CH 12 27.155 MHZ	CH 18 27.225 MHZ

Australian CB'ers are assigned callsigns relating to their region, for instance operators in Queensland use

the prefix "QZ" followed by another letter and 3 digits.

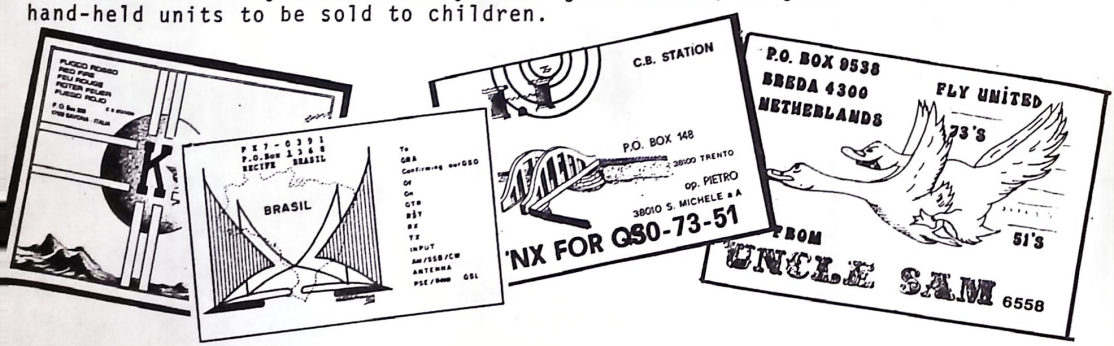
European CB authorizations are generally established on frequencies coressponding to American Channels 1 through 27, however many stations can be heard operating with AM and SSB transmission on a great many additional unauthorized frequencies ranging to higher in frequency than 27.900 MHz.

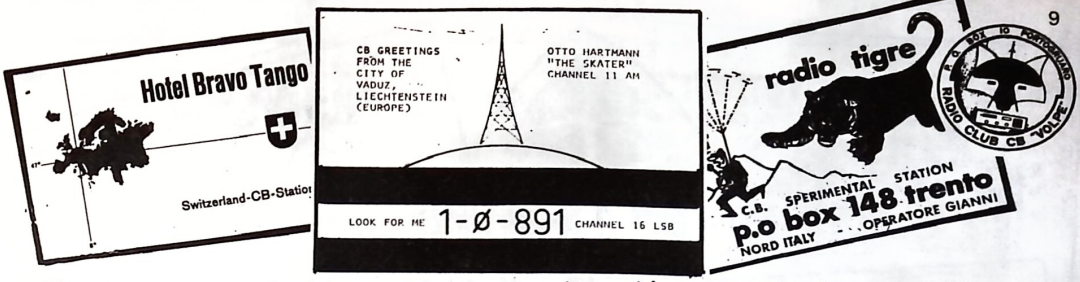
At press time, CB in France had not been officially authorized but was in full operation, and well out in the open. Hundreds of thousands of French CB stations are on the air, their operators belonging to several excellent clubs. The leading French CB club seems to be AFA (Association Française des Amateurs Radio). AFA's address is Boite Postale 270, 75063, Paris Cedex 02, France.

Sweden's CB exists on authorized channels which correspond to U.S. channels 4 through 15. Additionally, there are "reserve" channels corresponding to U.S. channels 1 to 3 and 16 to 22; these could be added should the need arise in the future. There are personal calling industrial units in Sweden on frequencies between U.S. Channels 24 and 40 and there are no plans at present to place these into CB service. There are hundreds of base stations on Channel 18, which is used for mobile emergency work in a manner similar to Channel 9 in the U.S. The leading CB organization is Svensk Privatradio, Hoders vag 14, S-145 70 Norsborg, Sweden. This is a federation of well over 100 local CB clubs.

West Germany, like Sweden, authorizes its citizens to operate on channels which correspond to U.S. Channels 4 through 15. Federal regulations call for a maximum input of 2-watts (½-watt output), no beam antennas, no base stations, no licenses. If you need a base station, you can get a license and run 5 watts with a type accepted rig, the cost of the license (about $70 per year) is added to the CB'ers phone bill. You can make up any ID you want, or the government will assign you a handle. Channel 9 is used by many CB clubs and (unoficially) used for calling and emergencies, however it is usually growded with CB'ers using it for general hobby purposes. West Germmany has a very high number of CB'ers.

In both Belgium and Holland there are large numbers of CB'ers, however none are officially sanctioned by their governments; Belgium does permit hand-held units to be sold to children.



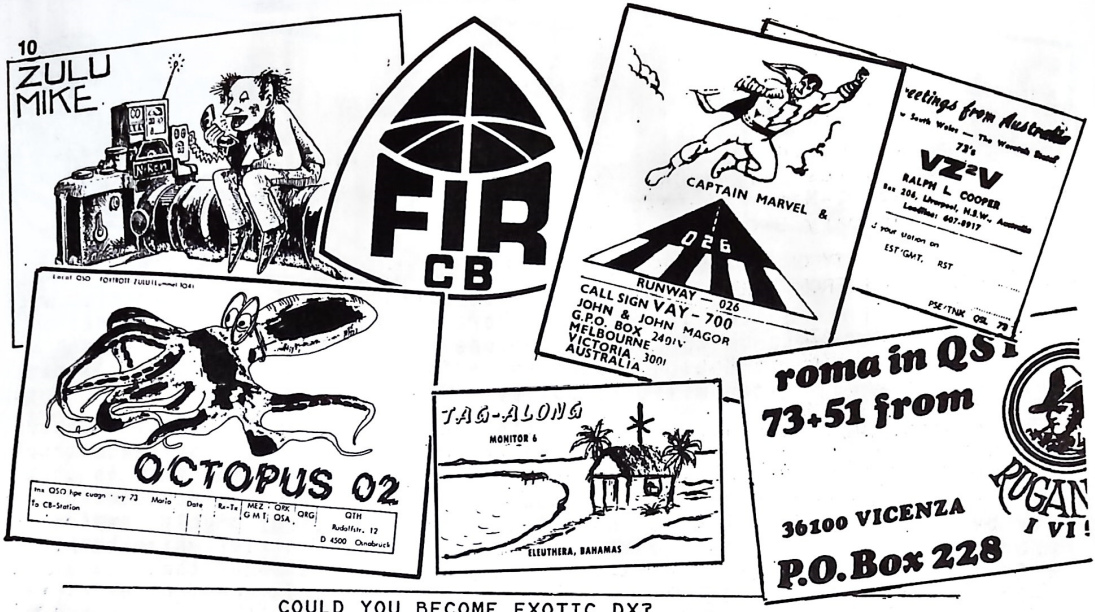

Hotel Bravo Tango
Switzerland-CB-Statio
CB GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF VADUZ, LIECHTENSTEIN (EUROPE)
OTTO HARTMANN "THE SKATER" CHANNEL 11 AM
LOOK FOR ME 1-Ø-891 CHANNEL 16 LSB
radio tigre
RADIO CLUB CB "VOLPE"
C.B. SPERIMENTAL STATION
p.o box 148 trento
NORD ITALY
OPERATORE GIANNI

There are several things which are interesting to note in connection with overseas CB. For one thing, wherever there are U.S. military personnel on duty, there seems to be CB activity of one sort of another; although in a few of those areas it does not seem to be "permitted" either by local civil authorities or American military policy.

Another thing which is unusual is its overseas use by long-haul truckers; which is to say that in Europe, where there is so much long-distance truck shipping, CB is generally NOT in use. One of the reasons for this is that the international frontiers in Europe are crossed with considerable regularity by truckers. This confronts drivers with a series of highly complex problems while attempting to move through various countries while harboring a CB transceiver in their cabs. It's easier to forget about the idea altogether, which is exactly what they seem to be doing. It does, however, seem that truckers in Great Britain would not face such problems, and they are the largest single group calling for the government to open up CB there.

These seems to be international agreement in respect to the need for the voluntary separation of AM and Single Sideband operations on different frequencies or channels. The pace set by American CB'ers has been picked up overseas, and the generally accepted operating practices world-wide seem to reveal Single Sideband (SSB) operations predominating on Channels 16 and 17 and also on the higher channels, most frequently 32 through 40; and with AM stations taking the lion's share of the band with the remaining 29 channels. In some areas Sideband operators object to skip-shooting on Channel 16 as this channel is frequently used as a local calling and short QSO channel; just as AM operators usually react with considerable annoyance at attempts to work skip on Channel 9, which is set aside for emergency communications in the U.S. and also in many other countries. Operators who consider themselves to be "serious hobbyists" all, regardless of their nationality or if they are on AM or SSB, are keenly aware of the need for courtesy to other operators and respect for those several things (as enumerated here) which are absolutely necessary for optimum communications.

Serious operators also realize that skip carries their voices around the world, offering perhaps millions of foreign CBers a chance to form an instant opinion of this or that nation and it's people. Ambassadors all! A CB QSO could well be the best way to open doors of friendship between people!



COULD YOU BECOME EXOTIC DX?

There has been some interest in taking a CB rig into other countries and then "working "the gang back home as exotic DX." You are no doubt aware that Americans can obtain authorization to use their CB gear in Canada and Mexico, but with some advance planning you may be able to operate elsewhere too. In most countries which have CB you may be able to get an authorization upon at least 30 days advance application to the various governments, although you will have to put up with various restrictions. In France you can use a rig with only a 50 milliwatt output. In Luxembourg and Hungary the limit is 100 milliwatts, in Switzerland it's also 100 milliwatts, but they will only allow hand held units. In Finland you can get authorization if you can prove you need it "for some good purpose." If you drive through Yugoslavia you'll have to remove it from the car, but a CB rig on a boat is OK if it is declared at the border. If you are driving through Belgium, you'll be able to use CB if you can prove it is a "used" rig; "new" equipment is forbidden. As for Great Britain, Ireland and Holland, forget it; although Britain will permit you to leave the set in your car so long as you leave a cash deposit with Customs equal to the value of the gear. If you go, be sure to bring this book; even to Puerto Rico, where Spanish is the main language. In Quebec you'll also find this book handy, as French is the official language.

ALL THOSE JUICY QSL CARDS

As you can see in our pages, overseas stations are really into the exchange of QSL cards, they absolutely love them and the rainbow of colors and beautiful designs displayed on their cards is top notch. If we had the space here we could show you hundreds and hundreds of QSL cards from nations large and small. Here are some thoughts on skip QSL cards, for it seems that most people who are into Skiplanding (either shooting skip or just listening to it) also collect cards. What is unfortunate is that so many people who are into collecting cards and say that they QSL 100%, yet they get returns on 50% of their cards. With everybody saying that they are 100% QSL senders, apparently somebody is fudging. So, if you say you are going to send a card, then do it! Or else don't say it-- it's a rather unsportsmanlike act to promise you're going to send a card when you know down deep that you haven't the slightest intention of doing so. If you are sending a card overseas, put in an envelope-- that will help it look presentable when it gets there. Postcards sometimes get rather ragged if sent minus an envelope, or else they have a nasty habit of getting cancelled right on top of the return QTH! Best bet is to avoid saying anything about "CB Radio" in the address you are sending your QSL to, Your overseas friend may not be particularly anxious to be well known as a CB'er. Always send by Air Mail, and be sure you use the right amount of postage!

THE Q CODE

The so-called "10 Code" is uniquely American and you will seldom hear overseas operators using it, most are unfamiliar with the code except for perhaps "10-4." Overseas operators generally prefer, understand, and use the Q-Code which, in the U.S.A. is used only by Sideband operators within the CB frequencies. Although there are many different Q-Codes, those normally used by 11-Meter operators cover only a very limited segment of the codes. The primary Q-Codes used by foreign stations are:

QRK THE READABILITY OF YOUR SIGNAL IS...
QRM INTERFERENCE FROM OTHER STATIONS
QRN STATIC
QRT GOING OFF THE AIR
QRU HAVE YOU ANYTHING FOR ME?
QRX WAIT A MINUTE
QRZ WHO IS CALLING ME?
QSA THE STRENGTH OF YOUR SIGNAL IS S-..
QSB YOUR SIGNAL STRENGTH VARIES OR FADES
QSL A CARD CONFIRMING RECEPTION OR CONTACT
QSO A 2-WAY CONTACT
QSP RELAY A MESSAGE TO ANOTHER STATION
QSX I AM LISTENING FOR CALLS
QSY CHANGING FREQUENCIES OR CHANNELS
QTH LOCATION OR ADDRESS OF A STATION
QTX THIS STATION IS STANDING BY

It should also be noted that American "CB lingo" and slang, more popularly known as "truckers' talk" is generally unknown to overseas operators.

INTERNATIONAL TIME

The world is divided in 24 time zones, the U.S. has 4 such zones, EST, CST, MST, and PST. Because of the dificulty and confusion when stations in one part of the world attempt to specify a particular hour of the day to stations in vastly differing time zones the general practice is for all stations to convert their local time zones into 1 common reference time zone. This is called Universal Time, Zulu Time, or Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which is the time in Greenwich, England. To further simplify matters in respect to separating A.M. and P.M., a "24-hour clock" reference is used. So, a station in Mexico City, for instance, would tell a station in Rome that he would look for him at 1700 GMT, which would be instantly unserstood by the station in Rome, whereas if the Mexican station had said 11 A.M. local time in Mexico, the other station would have had a difficult time attempting to convert that information into something usable to him. As an example, the chart above converts the North American time zones into GMT so you can see how this system works, as it is used in all international communications and in all radio services.

24-hour Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)	Eastern Standard Time (EST)	Eastern Daylight Time (EST)	Central Standard Time (CST)	Central Daylight Time (CDT)	Mountain Standard Time (MST)	Mountain Daylight Time (MDT)	Pacific Standard Time (PST)	Pacific Daylight Time (PDT)
0000	7 P.M.	8 P.M.	6 P.M.	7 P.M.	5 P.M.	6 P.M.	4 P.M.	5 P.M.
0100	8 P.M.	9 P.M.	7 P.M.	8 P.M.	6 P.M.	7 P.M.	5 P.M.	6 P.M.
0200	9 P.M.	10 P.M.	8 P.M.	9 P.M.	7 P.M.	8 P.M.	6 P.M.	7 P.M.
0300	10 P.M.	11 P.M.	9 P.M.	10 P.M.	8 P.M.	9 P.M.	7 P.M.	8 P.M.
0400	11 P.M.	12 Mid.	10 P.M.	11 P.M.	9 P.M.	10 P.M.	8 P.M.	9 P.M.
0500	12 Mid.	1 A.M.	11 P.M.	12 Mid.	10 P.M.	11 P.M.	9 P.M.	10 P.M.
0600	1 A.M.	2 A.M.	12 Mid.	1 A.M.	11 P.M.	12 Mid.	10 P.M.	11 P.M.
0700	2 A.M.	3 A.M.	1 A.M.	2 A.M.	12 Mid.	1 A.M.	11 P.M.	12 Mid.
0800	3 A.M.	4 A.M.	2 A.M.	3 A.M.	1 A.M.	2 A.M.	12 Mid.	1 A.M.
0900	4 A.M.	5 A.M.	3 A.M.	4 A.M.	2 A.M.	3 A.M.	1 A.M.	2 A.M.
1000	5 A.M.	6 A.M.	4 A.M.	5 A.M.	3 A.M.	4 A.M.	2 A.M.	3 A.M.
1100	6 A.M.	7 A.M.	5 A.M.	6 A.M.	4 A.M.	5 A.M.	3 A.M.	4 A.M.
1200	7 A.M.	8 A.M.	6 A.M.	7 A.M.	5 A.M.	6 A.M.	4 A.M.	5 A.M.
1300	8 A.M.	9 A.M.	7 A.M.	8 A.M.	6 A.M.	7 A.M.	5 A.M.	6 A.M.
1400	9 A.M.	10 A.M.	8 A.M.	9 A.M.	7 A.M.	8 A.M.	6 A.M.	7 A.M.
1500	10 A.M.	11 A.M.	9 A.M.	10 A.M.	8 A.M.	9 A.M.	7 A.M.	8 A.M.
1600	11 A.M.	12 Noon	10 A.M.	11 A.M.	9 A.M.	10 A.M.	8 A.M.	9 A.M.
1700	12 Noon	1 P.M.	11 A.M.	12 Noon	10 A.M.	11 A.M.	9 A.M.	10 A.M.
1800	1 P.M.	2 P.M.	12 Noon	1 P.M.	11 A.M.	12 Noon	10 A.M.	11 A.M.
1900	2 P.M.	3 P.M.	1 P.M.	2 P.M.	12 Noon	1 P.M.	11 A.M.	12 Noon
2000	3 P.M.	4 P.M.	2 P.M.	3 P.M.	1 P.M.	2 P.M.	12 Noon	1 P.M.
2100	4 P.M.	5 P.M.	3 P.M.	4 P.M.	2 P.M.	3 P.M.	1 P.M.	2 P.M.
2200	5 P.M.	6 P.M.	4 P.M.	5 P.M.	3 P.M.	4 P.M.	2 P.M.	3 P.M.
2300	6 P.M.	7 P.M.	5 P.M.	6 P.M.	4 P.M.	5 P.M.	3 P.M.	4 P.M.

WHO ELSE IS OUT THERE?

Sometimes people who become involved in CB tend to forget that the whole world isn't filled exclusively with CB people. This doesn't necessarily make for conflict except in one small area, and that is concerned with those who are attempting to use non-CB radio communications which unfortunately happen to be located near CB frequencies, or (in countries where CB doesn't exist), on CB frequencies. And, as you will read elsewhere in this book, CB operations in some areas are authorized on frequencies wide afield from the U.S. channels. New Zealand, for instance, starts off on 26.425 MHz, which the equivalent of 54 channels below U.S. Channel 1! Unauthorized CB transmissions from U.S. and foreign stations have been monitored on frequencies, in fact, which span from approximately 26.400 straight through to almost 28.000 MHz.

Those radio services which are authorized for operation in that band have been beseiged by authorized and unauthorized CB'ers, primarily those working skip and especially those running extremely high power (as much as 1,000 watts). These stations are prime targets of FCC monitors and, when caught, get the "book" thrown at them. This is because their operation has jammed a number of communications services in the U.S. and overseas. This has brought pressure to bear upon the FCC from foreign governments and also from FCC licensees, as well as from military and civilian agencies of the U.S. government, all of whom have complained of CB squatters on their frequencies. Such operation on the part of CB'ers is extremely risky, despite the "advantages" of having far fewer stations competing for the foreign skip stations than on the regular "authorized" CB channels.

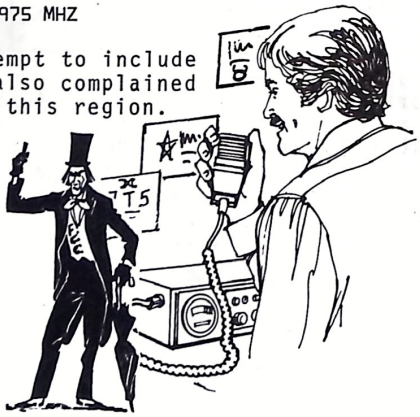
In particular, the following frequencies are in use by others who have been authorized for exclusive use of same, and who have lodged complaints with the FCC about their misuse by CB'ers. It might therefore be assumed that these are the very highest risk frequencies for those who are determined to operate in this manner. Further, there is a potential for illegal operations on at least some of these frequencies to endanger public safety:

CIVIL AIR PATROL	26.620 MHZ
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY	26.760 MHZ
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE	26.800 MHZ
U S NAVY	26.550 26.560 26.610 26.750 MHZ
U S ARMY	26.650 26.800 MHZ
U S COAST GUARD	27.980 MHZ
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMM	27.575 MHZ
MISC U S GOVT CIVILIAN AGCYS	27.585 MHZ
BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL USERS	27.430 27.450 27.470 27.490 27.510 27.530 MHZ
BROADCAST MOBILE NEWS UNITS	25.870 THRU 26.470 MHZ
ALL U S MILITARY SERVICES	27.550 27.575 27.600 27.625 27.650 27.675 27.700 27.725 27.750 27.775 27.800 27.825 27.850 27.875 27.900 27.925 27.950 27.975 MHZ

Our listing is incomplete and does not attempt to include any of the many foreign interests which have also complained about illegal CB operations on frequencies in this region.

AUTHORIZED CB FREQUENCIES

CH 1 26.965	CH 11 27.085	CH 21 27.215	CH 31 27.315
CH 2 26.975	CH 12 27.105	CH 22 27.225	CH 32 27.325
CH 3 26.985	CH 13 27.115	CH 23 27.255	CH 33 27.335
CH 4 27.005	CH 14 27.125	CH 24 27.235	CH 34 27.345
CH 5 27.015	CH 15 27.135	CH 25 27.245	CH 35 27.355
CH 6 27.025	CH 16 27.155	CH 26 27.265	CH 36 27.365
CH 7 27.035	CH 17 27.165	CH 27 27.275	CH 37 27.375
CH 8 27.055	CH 18 27.175	CH 28 27.285	CH 38 27.385
CH 9 27.065	CH 19 27.185	CH 29 27.295	CH 39 27.395
CH 10 27.075	CH 20 27.205	CH 30 27.305	CH 40 27.405



THOU SHALT NOT

Amongst the FCC's CB regulations are stipulations that CB'ers not contact other stations located more than 150 miles distant. Another provision prohibits talking to foreign and unlicensed stations.

Despite these very clearly explained rules, CB'ers have been "shooting skip" and talking to foreign stations right from day "1."

To the millions of skip shooters such attempted restraints are illogical and arbitrary, for it has not been proven to them that shooting skip has been anything but harmless fun and a great way to meet new friends. They say that the U.S. Constitution guarantees them free speech and that the FCC cannot restrict these rights. It seems ironic that the FCC would have conceived a "skipless" CB service situated on a frequency band so ideal for shooting skip, and the year the band was opened for CB'ers (1958) was one of the most spectacular years for skip in the history of radio! And since then CB'ers have worked their share of the forbidden stations. The FCC has been most unhappy about this, but hasn't had the funds or manpower to enforce their regulations on anything more than a token basis. Relatively few skip shooters "get caught," and those who are find that their skip working "transgressions" are merely tacked on to make other more serious rule violations (out-of-band or overpower) all the worse. The FCC track record against skip shooters indicates that they do not normally hassle those whose only "crime" is simple skipping, unless it is complicated by other factors. With another super-skip festival starting up, and more than 20-million CB'ers in the US, it hardly seems possible that the FCC's already farcical anti-skip regulations are going to be heeded any more than in past times by CB'ers, or can in any way be effectively enforced by the FCC. However, it <u>is</u> nevertheless a violation of Part 95 to shoot skip or contact foreigners, even though the chances of getting caught are extremely slim. From the amount of skip working heard on CB it seems that a great many CB'ers feel that it is worth any real or imagined "risks." Whether or not <u>you</u> do it is a matter of individual choice, in any event there is no regulation against listening to it. And maybe the FCC will eventually decide to allow talking too!

THE BIG DX AND SKIP BONANZA

While it is true that sun spots described in travel posters are places like Aruba and Puerto Rico, in CB lingo they are an altogether different ball game. They are solar disturbances and they spell out thumbs-up/thumbs down on long haul DX or skip. The way they do this is by the manner in which the solar activity interacts with the ionized layers which surround the atmosphere of the Earth like layers of onion skin. Various layers affect transmission/reception of radio signals at certain frequencies, and that's where CB comes in.

A CB signal radiates out from the antenna in 2 basic ways, the so-called "ground" wave, which creeps along the surface of the earth and then poops out at an indeterminate distance-- with an AM signal this could be just past the horizon, with an SSB signal it could well be twice that distance. But no way is a ground wave signal going to travel past 100 to 125 miles, hence the FCC's regulation against CB stations communicating past 150 miles; obviously such a regulation implies that there must be more to it all than "ground" waves. There is more to it, and it has to do with another signal common to CB, the "sky" wave signal; that portion of your signal which goes off into the wild blue yonder, wanting nothing whatsoever to do with crawling on the ground surface. Perhaps this signal will just keep right on going and eventually provide good listening on Mars or Saturn. But maybe it will have a more spectacular fate, in fact a fate so spectacular and offering so much of the potential FUN of CB that the FCC has vainly tried to stop it by means of rules and regulations which, when evaluated, seem thoroughly absurd and almost laughable. The plain and simple truth of it is that when CB signals hit just the right ionospheric layer at just the right time, at just the right angle, they sort of hopscotch or bounce back and forth between the ionosphere and the Earth's surface, and carry signals (yes, even "little" CB signals") to points on the other side of the planet! Neither FCC edict or official decrees from all of the political and religious leaders of the world can prevent this from happening, and when it does, human nature takes over. When that CB'er in Venezuela, or Japan (where CB is strictly illegal, but is heavily used), or Liberia is in there like a local, and he is calling YOU-- it is just too easy, too tempting, too much fun to do much else than hit the mike button and answer your phone call. Even hollow threats of FCC disfavor with the practice can't seem to convince the majority of CB'ers that saying hello to the guy in Guam or Germany is going to bring about an early Armageddon.

So what has happened is that every single year from about May to August, most days there periods of several hours of skip-- sometimes it even comes through at nite too. This is caused by CB signals bouncing off the "E" region layer of the ionosphere, about 65 miles up. This type of skip is called short-skip, or E-skip, or Sporadic-E, and it's good for hauls of about 1,000 miles. If you think E-skip is hot stuff, you have a few surprises in store! That's because the sunspot cycle rises and falls with peaks every 11 years. You ask what that has to do with CB skip-- plenty!

The high sunspot activity activates certain ionospheric layers called "F" layers, and when this happens CB goes absolutely bananas, with coast-to-coast, trans-oceanic, inter-continental, flag waving, 4-part harmony, 3-D, Technicolor skip! And this round-the-world festival of CB fun

and international friendship was at it's highest peak about the time CB was first opened, then there were a couple of years of relative quite, and then BANG! the 11 years came up again and from about 1965 through several more years we saw longhaul DX openings thanks to signals propagating off the F-layer(s). The third CB sunspot cycle is on the scientific charts from 1978 through about 1982, actually it started haltingly in 1976. The high spot of this cycle (which appears on charts looking as if it were a big inverted ice cream cone) is mid-winter, 1980.

Conditions gradually grow better and better as the peak period approaches, band openings starting about Noon each day and then, as time progresses, getting earlier and earlier until eventually each day at about 8 AM local time will find CB a-buzz with distant skip activity until sundown. And the direction from which the skip comes and goes is a constantly and slowly changing fantasmagoric kaleidoscope of DX, like sitting at a great "lazy susan" being slowly turned past you to offer tasty tidbits of DX from distant and exotic lands. Just remember to follow the Sun because that's how the skip moves. Early in the day, stations East of you predominate-- stations located in lands which are at that time seeing the setting sun and the ebbing of their daily DX festival, for F-skip works between places where the Sun is shining. At morning's end and into early afternoon the Caribbean and South American CB'ers can drop in for a visit, and as the Sun continues its arc, stations to the West gain in dominance. Even after sundown you may still be able to hear some good stations talking away in the background noise, and that could go until as late as 8 or 8:30 PM local time, but by then the operators further to your west will be clobbering 'em and will drown you out. No matter, by then your ears will be ringing, your finger numb from pressing the mike button, your voice may be hoarse if you were talking in addition to just listening, and your pen will have to be pried from your sweaty and tightly clenched fist from writing all of the entries in your log! Your mind may be totally boggled by the experience. Hopefully you will recover by the next morning, at least well enough to let you decide if you're going to call into work "sick" so you can stay home for more DX, or if you should go to work, even if only to earn enough to pay the postage for all of your outgoing international airmail QSL's!

Sideband operators, by the way, are going to have a definite "edge" on all of the most juicy DX. Several reasons make this so. For one thing, SSB seems far less affected by the annoying "fading" distortion which causes AM S-meters to bob and weave, which certainly doesn't help your copy of the other station. Also, when there are a few AM signals sharing the same channel it is a din and clang of howls and heterodyne whistles which can make strong men weep; this doesn't exist with SSB and many stations can operate simultaneously on the same frequency with nary a chirp! Also, the amount of energy (radio type) which comes out of an SSB rig is more than that of an AM rig; and less static and noise comes in through the receiver. But mainly because it seems that so many of the DX stations in the most exotic of the DX spots all seem to be operating on SSB these days. Oh, you'll be able to work plenty of fine skip on AM too, but you'll get more out of SSB, and easier!

USING THE SELF-PRONOUNCING 5-LANGUAGE TRANSLATOR

Within this book we are presenting a self-pronouncing 5-language phonetic translating guide which will give English speaking CB'ers enough of an effective foreign vocabulary to tiptoe through listening in on or participating in skip communications with most of the nations of the world having CB. In our listing, we first show the English word or phrase, followed by (and always in this same order) phonetic equivalents of that word or phrase in Spanish, French, Italian, German and Swedish. Rather than offer this information to you in its original foreign language spelling, which you could well mangle in your attempts to pronounce, we have simplified it all by dumping the actual foreign spelling and putting it all into phonetics which can be easily uttered by anybody who can read English. What will emerge from your lips will be a reasonable facsimile of how it would sound if you could actually speak that particular foreign language. So instead of being faced with trying to read the Swedish expression "I morse" (meaning "this morning") which would make little sense if said to a Swedish operator if pronounced like you would say it, you can see that if you say "ee mohsh-eh," he will know exactly what you mean, and think you're a pretty great person for having taken enough of an interest in him and the language he speaks to have a few expressions at your fingertips! And, if his English is sort of feeble to boot, you'll find in this section how to give him a coherent Swedish language message or two and then exchange QSL information, and back out gracefully-- in reasonably good Swedish! Having such a 5-language ability is a very definite PLUS and "edge" for you!

PRONOUNCING NUMBERS

	SPANISH	FRENCH	ITALIAN	GERMAN	SWEDISH
0	SERO	ZERO	ZERO	NULL	NOLL
1	OO-NOH	UHNG	OO-NOH	EYE'NSS	ETT
2	DOHSS	DUH	DOO-EH	TS-VYE	TVOH
3	TREHSS	TRWAH	TREH	DRY	TRAY
4	KWAH TROH	KAH-TRIH	QUAHT-TROH	FEAR	FEU-RAH
5	SEEN-KOH	SANK	CHEEN-KWEH	FEUNF	FEM
6	SAYSS	SEESS	SAY	ZEKS	SEX
7	SEE-AY-TAY	SET	SET-TEH	ZEH-BEN	SHU
8	OH-CHOH	EH-EET	OHT-TOH	AH'KHT	OHT-AH
9	NU-AY-VAY	NUFF	NOH-VEH	NOYN	NEE-EH
10	DEE-ESS	DEESS	D'YEH-CHEE	TSAYN	TEE-EH
11	OHN-SAY	OHNZ	OON-DEE-CHEE	ELF	ELL-VAH
12	DOH-SAY	DOOZ	DOH-DEE-CHEE	TSVOOLF	TOHLLV
13	TREH-SAY	TREZZ	TREH-DEE-CHEE	DRY-TSAYN	TRET-OHN
14	HAH-TOHR-SAY	KAH-TORZ	QUAHT-TOHR-DEE-CHEE	FEERR-TSAYN	F'YOORT-OHN
15	KEEN-SEH	KANZ	QUEEN-DEE-CHEE	FEUNF-TSAYN	FEM-TOHN
16	DEE-ESS-EE-SAYSS	SEZ	SEH-DEE-CHEE	ZEH'KH-TSAYN	SEX-TOHN
17	DEE-ESS-EE-SEE-AY-TAY	DEESS-SET	DEE-CHAHSS-SET-TEH	ZEEP-TSAYN	SHUHT-TOHN
18	DEE-ESS-EE-OH-CHOH	DEE-ZU-ETT	DEE-CHOHT-TOH	AH'KHT-TSAYN	ART-OHN
19	DEE-ESS-EE-NU-AY-VAY	DEE-ZNUFF	DEE-CHAHN-NOH-VEH	NOYN-TSAYN	NIT-OHN
20	BAY-EN -TAY	VANG	VENN-TEE	TSVAHNN-TSICK	CHU-GOO
21	BAY-EN-TAY-EE-OO-NOH	VAN-TAY-UHNG	VENN-TOO-NOH	INE-OONT-TSVAHNN-TSICK	CHU-GOO-EN
22	BAY-EN-TAY-EE-DOHSS	VANT-DUH	VENN-TEE-DOO-EH	TS'VYE-OONT-TSVAHNN-TSICK	CHU-GOO-TVOH
30	TRAY-EN-TAH	TRAHNT	TRENN-TAH	DRY-SICK	TRET-EE
40	KWAH-REN-TAH	KAH-RAHNT	QUAH-RAHN-TAH	FEERR-TSICK	FEURT-EE
50	SEEN-KWENN-TAH	SAN-KAHNT	CHEEN-QUAHN-TAH	FEUNF-TSICK	DEM-TEE
60	SAY-SENN-TAH	SWAH-SAHNT	SESS-SAHN-TAH	ZEH'KH-TSICK	SEX-TEE
70	SAY-TENN-TAH	SWAH-SAHNT-DEESS	SET-TAHN-TAH	ZEEP-TSICK	SHUHT-TEE
80	OH-TCHENN-TAH	KAH-TRIH-VANG	OHT-TAHN-TAH	AH'KH-TSICK	OHT-EE
90	NOH-VENN-TAH	KAH-TRIH-VAN-DEESS	NOH-VAHN-TAH	NOYN-TSICK	NIT-EE
100	SEE-EHN	SAHNG	CHENN-TOH	HOON-DEHRT	HUHN-DRAH
101	SEE-EHN-TOH-OO-NOH	SAHNG-UHNG	CHENN-TOH-OO-NOH	HOON-DEHRT-OONT-EYE'NSS	HUHN-DRAH-EN
200	DOH-SEE-EN-TOS	DUH-SAHNG	DOO-EH-CHENN-TOH	TS'VYE-HOON-DEHRT	TVOH-HUHN-DRAH
201	DOH-SEE-EN-TOS-OO-NOH	DUH-SAHNG-UHNG	DOO-EH-CHENN-TOH-OO-NOH	TS'VYE-HOON-DEHRT-OONT-EYE'NSS	TVOH-HUHN-DRAH-EN
1000	MEEL	MEEL	MEEL-LEH	INE-T'OW-ZENT	TUH-SEN
1001	MEEL-OO-NOH	MEEL-UHNG	MEEL-LEH-OO-NOH	T'OW-ZENT-OONT-EYE'NSS	ETT TUT-SEN
2000	DOHSS-MEEL	DUH-MEEL	DOO-EH-MEE-LAH	TSVYE-T'OW-ZENT	TVOH-TUH-SEN
2001	DOHSS-MEEL-OO-NOH	DUH-MEEL-UHNG	DOO-EH-MEE-LAH-OO-NOH	TSVYE-T'OW'ZENT-OONT-EYE'NSS	TVOH-TUH-SEN-EN

HOW THEY PRONOUNCE THE LETTERS OF THE ALPHABET

	SPANISH	FRENCH	ITALIAN	GERMAN	SWEDISH	INTERNATIONAL PHONETIC
A	AH	AH	AH	AH	AW	ALFA
B	BEH	BAY	BEE	BAH	BAY	BRAVO
C	SEH	SAY	CHEE	TSAY	SAY	CHARLIE
D	DEH	DAY	DEE	DAY	DAY	DELTA
E	EH	AY	EH	AY	EH	ECHO
F	EH-FEH	EFF	EHF-FEH	EFF	EF	FOX TROT
G	HEH	ZHAY	JEE	GAY	GAY	GOLF
H	AH-CHEH	AHSH	AHK-KAH	HAH	HOH	HOTEL
I	EE	EE	EE	EE	EE	INDIA
J	HO-TAH	ZHEE	EE-LONG-GOH	YAWT	YEE	JULIETT
K	KAH	KAH	KAHP-PAH	KAH	KOH	KEY-LOW
L	EH-LEH	ELL	ELL-EH	ELL	ELL	LEE-MAH
M	EH-MEH	EM	EMM-MEH	EM	EM	MIKE
N	EH-NEH	EN	ENN-NEH	EN	EN	NOVEMBER
O	OH	OH	OH	OH	OO	OSCAR
P	PEH	PAY	PEE	PAY	PAY	PAPA
Q	KOO	KEU	KOO	KOO	KUH	KAY-BECK
R	EH-REH	EHR	EHR-REH	EHR	AIRR	ROMEO
S	EH-SEH	ESS	ESS-SEH	ESS	ESS	SIERRA
T	TEH	TAU	TEE	TAY	TAY	TANGO
U	OO	EU	OO	OO	UH	UNIFORM
V	VEH	VAY	VOO	F'OW	VAY	VICTOR
W	DOHBLA-VAY	DOO-BL'IH-VAY	DOHP'PYOH-VOO	VAY	DUHB-ELL-VAY	WHISKEY
X	EH-KEESS	EEX	EEKS	IX	ECKS	X-RAY
Y	EE-GREE'EH-GAH	EE-GRECK	EE-PSEE-LOHN	IP-SEE-LAWN	EU	YANKEE
Z	SEH-TAH	ZEDD	DZEH-TAH	TSET	SAY-TAH	ZULU OR ZEBRA

HOW THEY PRONOUNCE THE DAYS OF THE WEEK

	SPANISH	FRENCH	ITALIAN	GERMAN	SWEDISH
MON	LOO-NESS	LUHN-DEE	LOO-NEH-DEE	MOHN-TAHK	MOHN-DAHG
TUE	MAHR-TESS	MAHR-DEE	MAHR-TEH-DEE	DEENSS-TAHK	TEES-DAHG
WED	M'YEHR-KOHLESS	MEHR-KRIH-DEE	MEHR-KOH-LEH-DEE	MIT-VAWKH	OONS-DAHG
THU	H'WEH-VESS	ZHUH-DEE	JOH-VEH-DEE	DAWNN-EHRSS-TAHK	TOOSH-DAHG
FRI	B'YEHR-NESS	VAHN-DRIH-DEE	VEH-NEHR-DEE	FRY-TAHK	FRAY-DAHG
SAT	SAH-VAH-THOH	SAH-MDEE	SAH-BAH-TOH	ZAHMMS-TAHK	LEURD-DAHG
SUN	DOH-MEEN-GO	DEE-MAHNSH	DOH-MEH-NEE-KAH	ZAWN-TAHK	SEUN-DAHG

HOW THEY PRONOUNCE THE MONTHS OF THE YEAR

	SPANISH	FRENCH	ITALIAN	GERMAN	SWEDISH
JAN	EH-NEH-ROH	ZHAHN-V'YAY	JENN-NAH-YOH	YAH-NOO-AHR	YAH-NUH-AW-REE
FEB	FEH-VREH-ROW	FEH-VREE-VAY	FEHB-BRAH-YOH	FAY-BROO-AHR	FEB-RUH-AW-REE
MAR	MAHR-TESS	MARSS	MAHR-TSOH	MEHRTS	MAHSH
APR	AH-VREEL	AH-VREEL	AH-PREE-LEH	AH-PRILL	AH-PRILL
MAY	MAH-YOH	MAY	MAHD-JOH	MY	MY
JUN	HOO-N'YOH	ZHWANG	JOO-N'YOH	YOO-NEE	U-NEE
JUL	HOO-L'YOH	ZHEU'EE-VAY	LOO-L'YOH	YOO-LEE	U-LEE
AUG	AH-GOHSS-TOH	OO	AG-GOH-STOH	OW-GOOST	AW-GUSS-TEE
SEP	SEH-T'EHYM-BREH	SEH-PTAHM-BR	SET-TEMM-BREH	ZEP-TEM-BEHR	SET-TEM-BEHR
OCT	OKH-TOO-VREH	UH-KTUH-BR	OHT-TOH-BREH	AWCK-TOH-BEHR	OHCK-TOO-BEHR
NOV	NOH-V'YEHM-BREH	NUH-VAHM-BR	NOH-VEMM-BREH	NO-VEM-BEHR	NOO-VEM-BEHR
DEC	DEE-S'YEHM-BREH	DAY-SAHM-BR	DEE-CHEMM-BREH	DAY-TSEM-BEHR	DEH-SEM-BEHR

MOST OFTEN HEARD EXPRESSIONS

ENGLISH - SPANISH - FRENCH - ITALIAN - GERMAN - SWEDISH (IN THAT ORDER)

In the several examples where a particular expression is usable with several interchangeable words, we have included suggested alternate words in parentheses. In those examples where a callsign would normally be inserted, we have inserted fictitious identifications (XXX-2222 and ZZZ-9999) for demonstative purposes only.

INITIATING A CONTACT

CQ CQ THIS IS THE (NATIONALITY) STATION (ZZZ-9999) CALLING CQ AND STANDING BY

Yah-mahr-dah heh-neh-rahl, ah-tehn-s'yohn toh-dohs, "seh koo." Ehss-tah ess lah ehss-tah-s'yohn (nationality)(ZZZ-9999) yah-mahn-do "seh koo" ee pah-sahn-do deh lah freh-kwehn-see-ah

Ah-pell shay-nay-rahl, ah-pell ah too dih la stah-s'yohn (nationality)(ZZZ-9999) seel voo pleh, poor (ZZZ-9999) kee voo ay-koo-tay ah-vek grahnd play-zeer.

K'yah-mah-tah jeh-neh-rah-leh "chee koo" kweh-stah eh lah stah-ts'yoh-neh (nationality) (KZZ-9999) keh k'yah-mah "chee koo". Ah-vahn-tee! Kahm-b'yoh.

Ahll-guh-mine-er dair (nationality) zenn-dehr (ZZZ-9999) mah'kht eye-nehn ahll-guh-minen oonnt guht noonn owf ahll-guh-minen emp-fahnng oo-behr bit-tuh

Ahll-men ahn-roop, hair kahl-ar den stah-shoon (ZZZ-9999) kahl-ar "say kuh" ohck l'euss-nah. Kohm in.

TO THE STATION CALLING ME, THIS IS (ZZZ-9999), GIVE ME A LONG CALL.

Ah-tehn-s'yohn la ehss-tah-s'yon keh ess-tah yah-mahn-doh-may, ess-tah ess (ZZZ-9999) deh-may oo-nah lar-gah yah-mahr-dah.

Ah-tahn-s'youhng lah stah-s'yohn kee m'ah-play, ee-see lah (ZZZ-9999) duh-nay mwah uhng lohng ah-play.

Aht-tenn-ts'yohne la stah-ts'yoh-neh, keh mee k'yah-mah, kweh'sta eh lah (ZZZ-9999) fat-eh-meh oo-nah loon-gah k'yah-mah-tah.

Hell-ah den stah-shoon sohm ahn-roop-ah-deh may, hair or (ZZZ-9999) yay may en lohngst ahn-roop.

HELLO (XXX-2222), HERE IS (ZZZ-9999)	COME IN	C Q
Ah-tehn-s'yohn (XXX-2222), ah-kee (ZZZ-9999)	Kahm-b'yoh	Seh koo
Ah-tahn-s'yohng (XXX-2222), ee-see (ZZZ-9999)	Ray-pohnss	Say keu
Aht-tenn-ts'yoh-neh (XXX-2222), kwee (ZZZ-9999)	Ah-vahn-tee	Chee koo
Ah'kh-toong (XXX-2222), heer roo'f (ZZZ-9999)	Kawmm-en	Tsay koo
Hell-ah (XXX-2222) hair svawr-ar (ZZZ-9999)	Kohm in	Say kuh

GENERAL CONVERSATION

HOW ARE YOU?

Koh-moh ehss-tah oo-stedd?
Ko-mahng-tah-lay-voo?
Koh-meh stah?
Vee gate ess ee-nen?
Huh-shtor deh till?

I'M FINE THANKS, AND YOU?

B'yen, grah-s'yahss, ee oo-sted?
B'yang, mehr-see, ay voo?
Beh-neh, grah-ts'yeh. eh lay?
Goot, dahnng-kuh, oont ee-nen?
Tahck, braw, oh nee?

I'M AN AMERICAN

Soy nohr-teh-ah-meh-ree-kah-noh
Zhih swee-zah-may-ree-kang
Soh-noh ah-meh-ree-kah-noh
Ikh bin ah-may-ree-kah-nehr
Yah eh ah-meh-rih-kawn

GOOD MORNING

Bweh-nohss de-ahss
Bohn-zhoor
Bwohn johr-noh
Goo-ten mawr-gen
Goo-mohrr-ohn

GOOD AFTERNOON

Bweh-nahss tahr-dess
Bohn-zhoor
Bwohn johr-noh
Goo-ten tahk
Goo-dawg

GOOD EVENING

Bweh-nahss noh-chehss
Bohn-swahr
Bwoh-nah seh-rah
Goo-ten ah-bent
Goo-ahf-tohn

MY NAME IS....
Meh yah-moh....
Zhih mah-pell....
Mee k'yah-moh....
Mine nah-muh ist....
Mit nahmn eh....

WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
Koh-moh seh yah-mah oo-sted?
Kuh-mahng voo-zah-play-voo?
Koh-meh see k'yah-mah?
Vee hice-sen zee?
Vah eh nahn-net?

GLAD TO MEET YOU
Moo-choh goos-toh day koh-noh-sehr-loh
Ahn-shahn-tay dih fehr vuh-trih kuh-neh-sahnss
P'yah-cheh-reh
Zair ahnn-guh-name
Deh vah trayv-lit aht tref-ahs

PLEASE
Pohr fah-vohr
Vuh-yay
Pehr pah-vor-eh
Bit-tuh
Vaw-shnell oh

THANK YOU
Grah-s'yass
Mehr-see
Grah-ts'yeh
Dahng-kuh
Tahck soh meuck-eh

I DON'T KNOW
No seh
Zhih nih say pah

Nohn so
Ich vice nikht
Yah vayt in-teh

THANKS FOR YOUR CALL
Moo-chahss grah-s'yahss pohr soo yah-mah-dah
Mehr-see boh-koo dih vuh-trih ah-pell
Grah-ts'yeh pehr lah voh-strah k'yah-mah-tah
Ikh dahng-kuh een-en feurd dane ahnn-roof
Tahck soh meuck-eh fur ahn-roo-peht

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Feh-lee-sehss Nahv-ee-dad
Zwah-yuh No-ell
Bwohn Nah-tah-leh
Freu-likh-uh Vie-nah'kh-ten
Goo'd Yu'l

EVERYTHING IS 100 PERCENT O.K.
Toh-doh ehss "oh kah," s'yehn pohr s'yehn-toh
Too esst "oh kah," shang poor shang
Oh kahp-pah toot-toh chenn-toh pehr-chenn-toh
Ahl-less hoon-dehrt pro-tsent fehr-shtahnnt-en
Ahllt oo koh, huhn-drah proh-sent

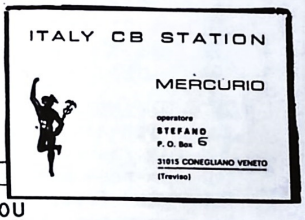
HAPPY NEW YEAR
Feh-leess ah-n'yoh n'weh-voh

Bun ah-nay
Fee-leh-cheh kah-poh dahn-noh

Ine glook-likh-ess noy-ess yahr

Goht neut or.

ONE MOMENT PLEASE
Ehss-peh-ray oon moh-mehn-toh
Uhng muh-mang, seel voo pleh
Ah-spett-tah-teh oon moh-menn-toh
Bit-tuh vahr-ten zee eye-nen ow-gen-blick
Ett euh-gohn-blick



CONVERSATION ABOUT CONVERSATION

DO YOU SPEAK....? (LANGUAGE NAME)
Ah-vlah oo-sted....?
Pahr-lay voo.....?
Pahr-lah.....?
Shpreh'kh-en zee.....?
Taw-lahr nee.....?

PLEASE REPEAT
Rreh-pee-tah, pohr fah-vohr
Ray-pay-tay; seel voo pleh
Pehr fah-voh-reh, ree-peh-tah
Bit-tuh vee-dehr-hole-en zee
Vah-shnell oh say ohm deh

I UNDERSTAND YOU
Leh-en-t'yehn-doh
Zhih voo kohm-prahng
Lah kah-pee-skoh
Ikh fehr-shtay-uh zee
Yah feu-shtohr ehr

I DON'T UNDERSTAND
Noh ehn-t'yehn-doh
Zhih nih kohm-prahng pah
Nohn kah-pee-skoh
Ikh fehr-shtay-uh nikht
Yah feu-shtohr in-teh

PLEASE SPEAK MORE SLOWLY
Ah-vleh mahss dehss-pah-s'yoh, pohr fah-vohr.
Pahr-lay pleu lahnt-mahng, seel voo pleh.
Pehr fah-voh-reh, pahr-lee p'yoo lenn-tah-menn-teh.
Bit-tuh shpreh'kh-en zee lahnng-zah-mehr.
Vah-shnell oh taw-lah lohng-sahm-ah-reh.

I SPEAK (UNDERSTAND) A LITTLE...(LANGUAGE)
Ah-vloh (ehn-t'yehn-doh) oon poh-koh day...
Zhih pahrl (kohm-prang) uhn puh...
Pahr-loh (kah-pee-skoh) oon poh dee...
Ikh shpreh'kh-uh (fehr-shtay-uh) et-vahss...
Yah taw-lahr (feu-shtohr) lee-teh...

I DON'T SPEAK....(LANGUAGE)
No ah-vloh....
Zhih nih parl pah....
Nohn pahr-loh....

Ikh shpreh'kh-uh kine....
Yah taw-lahr in-teh....

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
Koh-moh?
Kuh-mahng?
Koh-meh, preh-goh?
Vee bit-tuh?
Feu-loh't, yah heurd-eh in-teh.

IT'S ABOUT TIME

THE DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY
Ahn-tehss day ah-yehr.
Ah-vahn-t'yehr.
Lahl-troh yeh-ree.
For-gess-tehrn.
Ee feurr-gorr.

THIS MORNING
Ehss-tah mah-n'yah-nah
Sih mah-tang.
Stah-mah-nee.
Hoy-tuh mor-gen.
Ee mohsh-eh.

IN THE AFTERNOON
Ehn lah tahr-theh.
Pahn-dahn lah-pray-mee-dee.
Nell poh-meh-reed-joh.
Ahmm nah'kh-mit-tahk.
Poh eff-tehr-mid-dawg-en.

AT NIGHT
Deh noh-cheh.
Pahn-dahn lah neu'ee.
Dee noht-teh.
In dair nah'kht.
Poh nahtt-en.

TOMORROW MORNING
Mah-n'yah-nah ehn lah mah-n'yah-nah.
Dih-man mah-tang.
Doh-mah-nee maht-tee-nah.
Mawr-gen freu.
Ee mohrr-ohn bit-tih

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
Pah-sah-thoh mah'n'yah-nah.
Ah-preh dih-mang.
Doh-poh doh-mah-nee.
Eu-behr-mawr-gen.
Ee eu-vehr-mohrr-ohn.

LAST NIGHT
Ah-noh-cheh.
Yehr swahr.
Yeh-ree seh-rah.
Gess-tehrn ah-bent.
Ee gohr kvell.

AT NOON
A meh-th'yoh-thee-ah.
Ah mee-dee.
Ah medd-dzoh-johr-noh.
Mit-tahks.
Klohck-ahn tohllv.

IN THE EVENING
Ehn lah noh-cheh.
Lih swahr.
Dee seh-rah.
Ahmm ah-bent.
Poh kvell-en.

AT MIDNIGHT
Ah meh-th'yah-noh-cheh.
Ah mee-neu'ee.
Ah medd-dzah-noht-teh.
Oomm mit-tehr-nah'kht.
Veed meed-nahtt.

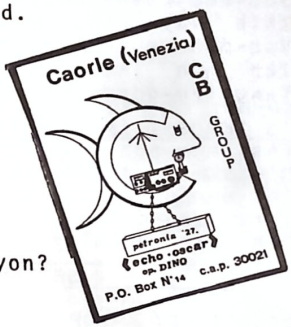
TOMORROW EVENING
Mah-n'yah en la noh-cheh.
Dih-man swahr.
Doh-mah-nee see-rah.
Mawr-gen ah-bent.
Ee mohrr-ohn kvell.

IT'S (2) O'CLOCK
Sohn lahss (dohss).
Eel ay (duh) kuhr.
Soh-noh leh (doo-eh).
Ess ist (ts'vye) oor.
Klohck-ahn eh (tvoh).

TECHNICAL MESSAGES

THE ANTENNA HERE IS FLAT-SIDE (VERTICAL)
Lah ahn-ten-nah ehss-tah ehn lah dee-rehk-s'yon oh-ree-sohn-tahl (behr-tee-kahl).
L'ahn-tenn esst dahng la dee-reck-s'yohng uh-ree-zohn-tahl (vehrt-ee-kal).
Ahn-tenn-nah eh een dee-reh-t'syoh-neh oh-reed-dzohn-tah-leh (vehr-tee-kah-leh).
My-nen ahn-ten-nuh lee-k't inn dair rikh-toong haw-ree-tsawn-tahl (zenk-rekht).
Ahn-ten sit-ah ee voh'g-rait (vairr-tih-kawl).

THE BAND IS VERY NOISY
Lah bahn-dah ess-tah moo-ee toor-boo-len-tah.
Eel ee ah boo-koo dih breu-ee seur lah bahnd.
Lah bahn-dah eh mol-toh dee-stoor-bah-tah.
Auf dame bahnn-duh ist feel lairm.



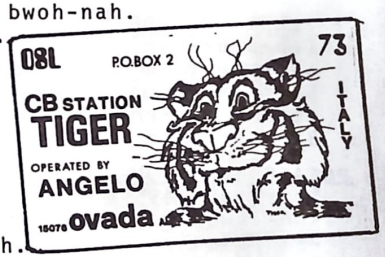
SKIP CONDITIONS AREN'T VERY GOOD
La proh-pah-gah-s'yon noh es bweh-nah.
Lah pruh-pahg-ah-s'yohn n'esst pah bohng.
Lah proh-pah-ga-s'yoh-neh nohn bwoh-nah.
Dee owss-brite-ungs buh-ding-oong-en zinnt.
Kohn-dee-shoon'era hair doh-lig-ah.

HOW ARE YOU GETTING ME?
Dee-gah-meh pohr fah-vohr mee eh-vah-loo-ah-s'yon?
Dee-tay m'wah mohng ay-vah-leu'ah-s'yohng?
Pahss-sah-tem-ee eel kohn-trohl-loh.
Gay-ben zee meer my-nen shett-soong?
Huh'r tar du may?

YOUR REPORT HERE IS Q-(5)
Soo eh-vah-loo-ah-s'yon ah-kee ehss "koo (sen-koh)".
Vuh-trih ay-vah-leu'ah-s'yohng ee-see esst "keu (sank)."
Eel voh-stroh kohn-trohl-loh "koo (cheen-kweh)."
Ear shett-soong ist "koo (feunf)."
Din rah-pohrrt hair air "kuh (fem)."

HOW IS MY MODULATION?
Koh-moh ehs mee moh-thu-la-s'yon?
Kuh-mang esst mah tohng-al-eet-ee.
Koh-me lah mee-ah moh-deu-lah-s'yohn.
Vee ist my-nen shtimm-muh eye-gen-shahft.
Huh'r-oo-dahn hair min moo-du-lay-shoon.

YOUR MODULATION ISN'T VERY GOOD
Soo moh-thu-la-s'yon ehs oon poh-koh mah-lah.
Vuh-trih tohng-al-eet-ee esst uhng puh muh-vehz.
Voh-strah moh-deu-lah-s'yohn nohn ahf-fah-toh bwoh-nah.
Din moo-du-lay-shoon in-teh or rick-tikt bar.



YOUR VOICE IS DISTORTED
Oo-stedd t'yehn-ee deess-tohr-s'yohn.
Voo aver dee-stor-s'yohng.
Ah-vet-eh dee dee-stohr-s'yoh-neh.
Zee hah-ben fehr-tsee-roong.
Du har dis-toor-shoon.

YOUR MODULATION IS EXCELLENT
Soo kwah-lee-dah'th deh bohss moo-ee bweh-nah.
Vuh-trih tohng-al-eet-ee esst treh bohng.
Lah voh-strah kwah-lee-tah dee voh-cheh eh mohl-toh bwoh-nah.
Ear-eh shtimm-muh eye-gen-shahft ist owss-guh-tsye'kh-net.
Din toon or uh't-mairrkt.

CAN YOU QSY HIGHER (LOWER)?
Pweh-dey oo-sted "koo eh-seh ee-gree'eh-gah" mahs ahl-toh (mas bah-hoh)?
Poo-veh voo "heu ess ee-greck" pleuss oh (pleuss bah)?
Poh-teh-reh fah-reh "koo ess-seh ee-psee-lohn" p'yoo een al-toh (bahss-soh)?
Kunn-en zee "koo ess ip-see-lawnn" heu-yuh (teef-ehr)?
Kan du "kuh ess eu" ah uhp-oht (nayd-oht)?

I AM MOVING TO A HIGHER (LOWER) FREQUENCY NOW
Soo-voo (bah-hoh) deh freh-kwen-s'yah.
Zhih vay uhng puh pleuss hact (pleuss bas).
Vah-doh oh-rah p'yoo ahl-toh (bahss-soh).
Ikh guh ine vay-nick heu-yuh (teef-ehr).
Yawg ee-gor lee-teh uhp-oht (nayd-oht).

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO COPY YOUR TRANSMISSION
Ehs eem-poh-see-vleh kohm-prehn-dehr soo trahnss-mee-s'yon.
M'esst am-puh-see-blih dih kohm-prahn-drih vuh-trih trahs-mee-s'yuhn.
Eh eem-pohss-see-bee-leh kah-pee-reh lah voh-strah trahs-mee-s'yohn.
Ihre zen-doong tsoo fehr-shtay-en.
Deh air oo-mooy-lig fo-shtoh aht send-ning.

SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT

I DIDN'T GET A COPY ON YOUR IDENTIFICATION
Noh eh kohm-prehn-dee-doh soo enn-dee-kahr-tee-voh deh yah-mahr-dah.
Zhih n'ay pah kohm-pree vuh-trih an-dee-kah-teef.
Nohn ho kah-pee-toh eel voh-stroh noh-mee-nah-tee-voh.
Ikh kawnn-tuh ear roo'f tsye-kh'en nikht emp-fahnng-en.
Yawg hair ikk-kek faht din ahn-roop-sig-nawl oo koh.

I'LL SEND YOU MY QSL CARD
Leh ehn-b'yahr mee tahr-heh-tah "koo eh-seh eh-leh."
J'ahn-ver-eye mah kahrt "keu ess ell."
Vee mahn-deh-roh lah mee-ah kahr-toh-lee-nah "koo ess-seh ell-eh."
Ikh fehr-duh mine "koo ess ell" kahrr-tuh.
Yawg sen-dehr mit "kuh ess ell" kohrrt.

WHAT IS YOUR QTH?
Dohn-deh ehss-tah soo "koo teh ah-cheh"?
Kell esst vuh-trih "keu tay ahsh"?
Quah-leh eel vostroh "koo tee ahk-kah"?
Vell-kh'ehs ist ear "koo tay hah"?
Vil-ket air dit "kuh tay hoh"?

SPELL YOUR ADDRESS
Deh-seer-mee koh-moh seh deh-leh-treh-ah soo dee-rehk-s'yohn.
Kuh-mahng s'ay-kreet vuh-trih ah-dress.
Deet-ehm-mee koh-meh see skree-veh eel voh-stroh een-dee-rett-toh.
Bookh-stah-bee-ren zee ear-eh ahnn-shrift.
Book-stawv-ayr-ah din ah-dress.

PLEASE SEND YOUR QSL CARD TO ME
Seer-vah-say ehn-b'yahr-mee soo tahr-heh-tah "koo eh-seh el-leh."
Ahn- vwah-yay-mwah voh-trih khart "keu ess ell" seel voo pleh.
Pehr fah-voh-reh, mahn-dah-teh-mee lah voh-strah kahr-toh-lee-nah "koo ess-seh ell-eh."
Bit-tuh, shick-en zee meer ear-eh "koo ess ell" kahrr-tuh.
Yawg hohp-ahs aht du vill sen-dah may ditt "kuh ess ell" kohrrt.

I'LL SPELL OUT MY ADDRESS FOR YOU
Leh dee-ray, koh-moh seh ehss-kree-veh mee dee-rehk-s'yohn.
Kuh-mahng ohn ay-kreet mohng ah-dress.
Vee dee-roh, koh-me see skree-veh eel mee-oh een-dee-rett-toh.
Ikh bookh-stah-bee-ren mine ahn-shrift.
Yawh skahll book-stawv-ayr-ah min ah-dress.

I HOPE TO MEET YOU AGAIN IN THE NEAR FUTURE (UNDER BETTER CONDITIONS)
Ehss-peh-roh ehn-kohn-trahr-leh ah oo-sted oh-trah vehss (ehn mah-hohr-es kohn-dee-s'yoh-nehss).
J'eh-spay-ray voo rahn-kohn-tray dih noo-voh dahng (day kohn-dee-s'yohng meh-yuhr).
Speh-roh de een-kon-trah-veh (een mee-l'yoh-reh kohn-dee-ts'yoh-neh).
Hawff-en-t'likh vair-den veer oons (oonn-tehr bess-sehr-en buh-ding-oong-en vee-dehr-treff-en).
Hohp-ah aht tref-ahs say-nah-reh (uhn-der bet-reh kohn-dish-oh-nehr).

SEE YOU AGAIN
Ahss-tah lah veess-tah.
Oh play-zeer.
Ahr-ree-veh-dehr-lah.
Awf vee-dehr-zay-en.
Ah-yeo soh leng-eh.

SO LONG
Ahss-tah l'weh-goh.
Ah b'yan-toh.
Chow.
Ahd-eyo.
Hay soh leng-eh.

GOODBYE
Ah-d'yohss.
Oh rih-vwahr.
Ahd-dee-oh.
Owf vee-dehr-zay-en.
Ah-yeu.

GOOD LUCK!
Bweh-nah swehr-teh!
Bun shahnss.
Bwoh-nah fohr-too-nah!
Feel glook!
Leuck-ah till.

GOOD NIGHT
Bweh-nass noh-chehss.
Bun neu-ee.
Bwoh-nah noht-ich.
Goo-tuh nah'kht.
Goo-naht.

GOOD NUMBERS
Moo-choss sah-loo-dos.
May meh-yur ah-mee-t'yay.
Tah'nti sah-loot-ee.
Dee bess-ten greuss.
Mohng-ah hells-ning-awr.

73'S BEST REGARDS
Seh-tehn-tah trehss
Swah-sahnt-deess trwah.
Set-tahn-tah treh.
Dry-oont-zeep-tsick.
Shuht-tee tray.

88'S LOVE AND KISSES
Oh-chen-tah oh-choh.
Kah-trih-vang eu'eet.
Oht-tahn-tah oht-toh.
Ah'kht-oont-ah'kh-ysick
Oht-ee oht-ah.

(ZZZ-9999) IS CLEAR (STANDING BY)
(ZZZ-9999) tehr-mee-nah (ehs-koo-chah).
(ZZZ-9999) tehr-mee-nee (ay-koo-tay).
(ZZZ-9999) tehr-mee-nah (ah-skohl-tah).

(ZZZ-9999) shlees't (huh'rt).
(ZZZ-9999) klawr slu't (luss-nawr).

(ZZZ-9999) IS CLOSING DOWN
(ZZZ-9999) s'yeh-rrah ehss-tah-s'yohn.
(ZZZ-9999) fehrm lah stah-s'yohn.
(ZZZ-9999) k'yoo-deh lah soo-ah stah-ts'yoh-neh.
(ZZZ-9999) mah'kht noonn "koo ehr tay."
(ZZZ-9999) steng-ah stah-shoon-en.

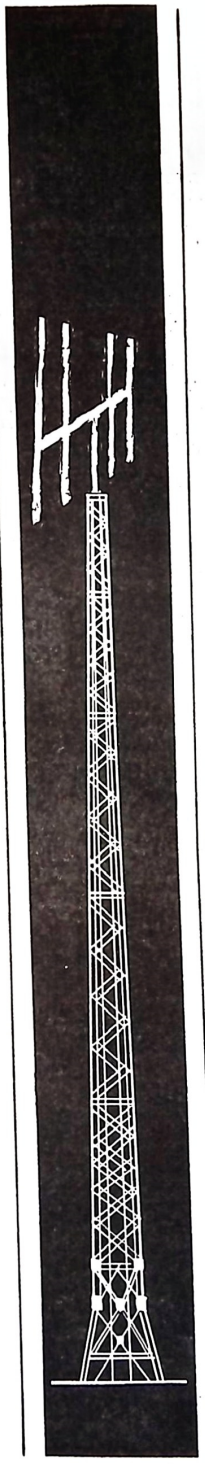
SECRETS OF A SUCCESSFUL SKIP SHOOTER

A survey of long-time CB skip shooters as to their most successful techniques always brings about handy tips and techniques, but it's interesting that the operators who have the most luck with the band all agree on a set of practices with only very slight variations from operator to operator. We are not suggesting that our readers shoot skip, it is outside the authorizations of present day CB licenses; however those who are determined to try it once in a while or all the time, no matter what "risks" are to be faced (if indeed there are any), will certainly be interested in knowing what others have found to work well for them. A good operator is a stations' most important component.

First and foremost, listen. That means, keeping one's ears open, brain engaged, and jaws in "neutral." By listening about half as much as you talk you can get a clear picture of which stations are coming through so you can position your beam, figure out which countries are on tap. If you hear a station which sounds like a winner, see what he has to say. Is he calling for replies from a specific area-- if so, only stations who are in that area should reply. A good operator will keep in mind that the operator "on the other side of the pond" may well be sitting there with literally hundreds of stations calling him. Most likely, he'll reply to the first station whose identity he can unravel from the pileup-- so the idea is to call him by announcing his identification only ONCE (he already know it, so no point in droning it over and over), then giving the calling station ID and QTH twice. Don't make it a long shout, a quickie shout might get the guy to come back and reply while other un-hip operators are still rattling on and on with long winded calls to him. In any event, do not EVER break in on his contact with another station in order to horn in on someone else's QSO. If a station is called several times and doesn't seem to be showing any indication that the calling station is getting through, then it's time to call it quits and go after another fish on another frequency, give some other op a sot at him. One does not keep calling to the point of exhaustion. If the other station announces he is on flat side (horizontal polarization), it certainly helps get through if the operators trying to raise him have flat side capabilities too, although vertically polarized ops can give it a whirl if they wish. All stations using flat side should always make a specific point of mentioning it. A technique called "tail ending" can be put into use, this means that when the distant station is winding up his QSO and turns it over to the fellow he is talking to for his "final," someone wishing to be first in line can hop right in and give a short shout. This isn't really horning in on the QSO since it was over anyway, but it does put someone in the lead position for the next contact. Some operators seem to insist on calling DX stations while the DX stations are talking; most strange since there seems little point in calling a station during a time while that station is transmitting; yet it's done all the time! When contact is finally made, don't make it a lifetime career and long-winded festival of words, others may be waiting too. Be yourself, avoid cutsie localized "CB words" and phrases which will not be understood or appreciated by the distant station, save the "golleeeeee" and "mercy sakes" for any locals who come through when the band is dead; avoid commenting about the politics of his or your own government. Then, exchange QSL information and put the ribbons on it, short and sweet.

An overriding consideration with all of those who are successful at this is a sense of good sportsmanship and cooperation. It is, after all, a hobby. It is supposed to be fun. Some people have blood vessels standing out on their temples within 10 minutes after they sit down behind the mike, if that is the only manner in which a person can approach their hobby then it is time to look for some other form of relaxation. Good operators try to keep AM and SSB operations on separate frequencies and will not QSY onto a channel used by "the other camp." It just isn't done, it's bad form and everybody comes out a loser. If there is an accidental head-on collision between the egos of 2 operators, it's best not to hash it out over the air, nobody else is interested and will think both ops are chumps. Of course, if you miss a station you really wanted, it's disapointing-- but it isn't the end of the world and there are plenty more fish in the sea, and maybe he'll be in there again the next day.

A final word about speaking. Do it slowly so that you can be understood easily. And do not try shouting, it makes your voice unable to be copied on the other end. If you use SSB, get as close to the microphone as you can as it will bring up the quality of your voice in relation to the background noises in the shack.



EQUIPMENT, ANTENNAS AND STUFF

Everybody has their own formula and if you started to take a collection of opinions you would end up more confused than when you began. It all boils down to a few very simple basics: getting a signal from here to there and/or hearing the other station's signals. In addition to the technical ability of a CB station to perform these tasks, there are other factors which will affect the outcome, and they would include the number of other stations on the frequency, propagation conditions, the quality of the other guy's installation, and how good of an operator you are. Given those variables, the great equalizer which separates the men from the boys is the station itself.

It is possible to work skip with a hand held unit, and it is common to hear guys shooting skip from their mobile units, but it is the base station where all of the stops can be pulled out. A good rule of thumb is to get the very best rig you can afford, that way you'll have a reliable piece of gear that you won't want to dump after two weeks of realizing that it isn't going to offer you what you feel you needed in the first place. A power mike is a worthwhile investment too, but remember that it doesn't have to be run full blast to give you its full benefit, in fact pushing too much audio brings diminished results.

In some quarters it is felt that the optimum skip gear is either a 250 watt (PEP) Ham transceiver or else a linear amp. This is the kamikazi squad, the fellows whose names you read in the CB publications in the monthly listings of casualties in the FCC's monitoring effort, such as it is. A good operator can accomplish the same results with a regular AM or SSB CB rig running standard authorized power. If the band is open for skip 4 watts AM or 12 PEP SSB will get a signal around the world; if the band is dead 1,000 watts won't get your 11 meter signal around the world; but the 1,000 watts will bleed into half the CB rigs in your county and wipe out 80% of the TV receivers. And while an omnidirectional base station antenna will bring in the skip, a directional beam that you can point into the desired direction will be of considerable benefit. Besides the boost it will give your signal when you're transmitting, a beam is even more of a blessing when you are attempting to receive. This is because it not only adds vitamins to the incoming station you have it pointed at, but because it has the ability to shut out incoming interfering mail from all around you!! And that's because the beam simply doesn't function well except in one main direction, and that's just what you're looking for. You may also want to consider getting a dual polarity (switchable horizontal/vertical) type beam. Many sharp operators have discovered that if both stations in a contact have the ability to switch over to "flat side" (horizontal) they can eliminate a lot of the incoming chatter from the majority of other CB'ers who are on the frequency, since the rest of CB-land is vertically polarized.

One further thought, skip is a challenge. Bagging that elusive station is really a rewarding experience. Doing it with only 4 watts AM or 12 watts PEP on SSB is the fun of it. It's the difference between fishing and poisining all of the water in the lake. Both will get you a fish.

MAKE IT EASY ON YOUR SHELF

There are a couple of things you will find to be handy around a station which is hoping to be in the DX game. For instance, a digital clock will make time reading easy, and you can even get digital clocks which read out with 24-hour clock numerals. Set it for Universal Time (GMT). Also, get and keep a station log, fortified with a goodly supply of pens and pencils. A couple of pads of scratch paper will also be of use too, that way you can doodle and jot down brief notes before you make entries in your log. A supply of QSL cards is a MUST, and don't let the outgoing cards backlog until you can "get around" to filling them out. Make it a rule that QSL cards MUST (without fail) be put in the mail within 24 hours of any given contact. If you don't have any QSL cards, check out the classified ads in CB publications for the addresses of printers who specialize in printing the cards, they will send you samples and price lists.

A good desk lamp will help you to see what you're doing, but you may find that lamps having fluorescent bulbs could possibly generate some power line noise which could affect your reception. And speaking of electricity, be sure to mount your antenna away from any power lines, not only because power lines also generate noise, but they are a severe safety hazard if they are located near antenna sites. If the antenna should topple over into them while it is being erected, or after it is in use, anybody near it could be electrocuted. So, if your antenna is going to be one of those giant monsters, carefully plan its location, get a good sturdy tower underneath it, and a heavy duty rotor to turn it. Don't skimp, and make sure you have lightning protection on the whole contraption.

You will find that a good pair of headphones will considerably increase your luck in hearing those weak ones buried beneath multi-station pileups. A few CB rigs have a jack for plugging in a headset, or a qualified technician should be able to install one for you rather inexpensively. It's a fully legal thing, and when you buy a headset be sure to buy a pair made for communications purposes; avoid ones designed for stereo or music reproduction. You might also want to check out a unit with a built-in microphone, like they use at base stations of commercial 2-way radio dispatchers. This frees your hands and is a great convenience.

Another handy item is a tape recorder, lets you play back your QSO's at a later time so that you can make certain that you got his QSL info down straight in your records. Secondarily, it is proof that you worked the guy until his QSL arrives. And speaking of QSL's, if you snag a particularly juicy station and you want to give him every inducement to send you the promised QSL, you can take several steps: 1) Drop a short personal note in with the QSL, 2) Enclose your photo, 3) Include an International Reply Coupon (these are "tickets" of a sort which you can buy at many post offices, they can be redeemed in many countries overseas for postage stamps of a sufficient amount to send a letter back to the country of origin of the IRC), and lastly, 4), PLEAD-- tell him that it was your first and only contact with Inner Mongolia or where ever and you were waiting to make the contact for the last 11 years because your great grandmother came from there and her last request was that you get a QSL card. But DON'T send money.

One last thought on operating aids, and that revolves around the various "soup-up" modifications which seem to be being performed at a steadily increasing rate. Whether or not any of these has any value or not is a matter of personal preference and opinion; if it's a modification that is going to attempt to make the equipment function on anything other than the authorized 40 frequencies, or something offering "more power output" or "more modulation," it's probably an illegal modification and if for some reason the FCC shows up on your doorstep to look at your equipment you're going to have a lot of explaining to do. You may also want to consider that a modified rig has lost some resale value. Most importantly, if you are hell bent on getting some sort of major modification done, remember that few qualified technicians will do the work for fear of loss of their FCC licenses should they get caught (like when you squeal on them when you're caught, it's one if the first questions they ask you). So, as a result, many of these modifications are left to unqualified tinkerers who work out of basements and garages, using pins and paper clips as work-aids. If you have a high opinion of your CB equipment you would not entrust it's life to one of these butchers whose unguaranteed work is all too often worthless, and causes more long term damage and degeneration of service than any apparent short-term temporary benefits.

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